REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application, in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner states that claims 12 and are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gfeller in view of Wissinger. The Examiner states that regarding claim 1, Gfeller teaches receiving a light beam at the photodetector, demodulating data carried on the received light beam, parsing the demodulated data, determining an origin of the demodulated data based on the parse, and permitting signal lock if the origin of the received light beam is different from the optical wireless link containing the photodetector. The Examiner states that Gfeller differs from the claimed invention and that Gfeller fails to specifically teach providing a steerable light beam transmitter. The Examiner states that Wissinger, in the same field of satellite communications, teaches this concept. The Examiner concludes that one skilled in the art would have been motivated to include a controllable mirror in the device of Gfeller in order to generate a predetermined scan pattern and that it would therefore be obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to include a steerable light beam transmitter as taught by Wissinger in the device of Gfeller.

First of all, the Examiner's rejection is only to Claim 12. However, in view of the fact that the Examiner has provided separate rejections for claims 1-13 and 15-18, Applicant's have read the defective rejection in Paragraph 2 as being to those claims. The Examiner should correct the record in this respect.

We can not agree that Gfeller in view of Wissinger renders the present invention unpatentable. The Examiner points to Gfeller, Col. 6, L 64 - Col 7, L25 for his basis that Gfeller teaches permitting signal lock if the origin of the received light beam is different

from the optical wireless link containing the photodetector. However, in actuality, nothing in Gfeller talks about signal lock, and the portion referred to by the Examiner discusses the solution to two (2) satellites received the same packet of data, in order to avoid duplicate messages on the system. In sharp contrast, in the present invention, the device locks onto the received light beam to direct the received light beam on to the photodetector. Claims 1 and 13 have been amended in this respect.

Accordingly, Applicant's believe that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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